Theme Statement

Our Shared Responsibility

We lead Web-based, digital lives.

The Internet has become pervasive; we are online at home, school, work, and play. In addition to the traditional laptop or desktop computer, we now have many more gateways to the Internet. Mobile devices of all shapes and sizes connect us to increasingly complex and useful tools almost everywhere and at anytime. Even when we are not directly connected, the Internet supports our everyday lives through our financial transactions, transportation systems, power grids, emergency response systems and a constant flow of communication, to name a few. This reliance will only increase as digital technology becomes further entwined with how we live.

If we are to achieve the potential of a digital society for robust and widely available content, community, communication, commerce, and connectivity we must protect the resource that makes it possible.

The Internet is a shared resource and securing it is our shared responsibility.

Ultimately, our cyber infrastructure is only as strong as the weakest link. No individual, business, or government entity is solely responsible for securing the Internet. Everyone has a role to secure their part of cyberspace, including the computers, devices and networks they use. We all need to understand how our individual actions have a collective impact on cybersecurity and protecting the Internet.

Our Shared Responsibility means each of us must do our part. The actions we take may differ based on our personal and professional responsibilities. However, if each of us does our part—whether it's implementing stronger security practices in our day-to-day online activities, making sure the right tools are in place, raising awareness in the community, educating young people or training employees— together we will be more resistant and resilient, protecting ourselves, our neighbors and our country.

About National Cyber Security Awareness Month

National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM), conducted every October since 2001, is a national public awareness campaign to encourage everyone to protect their computers and our nation's critical cyber infrastructure.

Cyber security requires vigilance 365 days per year. However, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA), and the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC), the primary drivers of NCSAM, coordinate to shed a brighter light in October on what home users, schools, businesses and governments need to do in order to protect their computers, children, and data.

What are you doing for National Cyber Security Awareness Month?

The success of National Cyber Security Awareness Month rests on all of us doing what we can do to engage those around us to be safe and secure online. There are opportunities for everyone, from home users and small businesses to major corporations and government entities, to get involved (http://www.staysafeonline.org/content/get-involved-1).